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IAC-M-124

6 October 1953

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Director's
Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, on 6 October 1953

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Special Assistant, Intelligence,
Department of State
Major General Richard C. Partridge, Assistant Chief of
Staff, G-2, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Carl F. Espe, Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy
Major General John A. Samford, Director of Intelligence,
Headquarters, United States Air Force
Dr. Charles H. Reichardt, Atomic Energy Commission
Representative to the IAC
Brigadier General Edward H. Porter, Deputy Director for
Intelligence, The Joint Staff
Mr. Meffert W. Kuhrtz, acting for Assistant to the Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALSO PRESENT

Lt. General Charles P. Cabell, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Robert Amory, Jr., Central Intelligence Agency
Dr. Sherman Kent, Central Intelligence Agency
Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. H. D. Sheldon, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Otto E. Guthe, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. James Q. Reber, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Ludwell L. Montague, Central Intelligence Agency

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Mr. William C. Trueheart, Department of State
Mr. Allan Evans, Department of State
Brigadier General John M. Willems, Department of the Army
Lt. Colonel T. C. Anderson, Department of the Army
Dr. Samuel McKee, Department of the Army
Captain Allan L. Reed, USN, Department of the Navy
Captain K. C. Hurd, USN, Department of the Navy
Colonel Donald H. Ainsworth, United States Air Force
Colonel John J. Morrow, United States Air Force
Colonel Robert Totten, United States Air Force
Colonel Charles F. Gillis, United States Air Force
Colonel George E. Perry, United States Air Force
Captain E. T. Layton, USN, The Joint Staff
Colonel Samuel M. Lansing, The Joint Staff


Secretary

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Approval of Minutes

1. Action: The Minutes of 29 September 1953 (IAC-M-123) were approved.

IAC Policy on Approval
of Appendices to NIEs

2. Action: The IAC (a) rescinded its action of 4 September 1952 relating to appendices (IAC-M-81 Revised, Item 2); (b) instructed the Board and the IAC representatives to hold the use of appendices and their length to a minimum consistent with the adequate presentation of estimates; and (c) agreed to act upon such appendices as are found to be necessary in the same manner as upon any other part of the estimate. The Board was further instructed to insure the earliest practicable notice to the IAC agencies whenever the scope of the intelligence requirement, particularly if levied by the NSC, indicated a need for appendices.

Watch Committee
Indications Center

3. Action: Agreed to form a special committee to conduct a thorough and prompt review of the watch process and prepare recommendations for the IAC and, ultimately, the NSC. The committee will consider as an initial step a paper to be prepared and circulated by CIA and thereafter such other papers, including the subject proposal tabled by General Willems, as the agencies submit. The agencies are to nominate a highly placed officer to Mr. Huntington Sheldon, CIA/OCI, who will call the first meeting, at which time the committee will select a chairman and adopt its procedures.

4. Discussion: The DCI stated that he felt that the existing Watch Committee was a great improvement over the situation prior to its creation, but that developments over the past years (including the atomic progress of the USSR, the increasing problem of continental defense, and the concurrent growth in importance of economic and political factors) made it desirable to reexamine the scope and limitations of the watch process, how that process can best function,

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and what major problems are involved. It was the sense of the meeting that such a reexamination was desirable.

General Samford said that the watching process is a most difficult matter, and he was doubtful that we had even accurately defined the problem. It seemed to him, he said, that since the watching process inevitably transcends the ability of any one agency or of the military services, the broad leadership of the DCI was required. General Porter agreed that the leadership of CIA was needed in this important intelligence function. Mr. Dulles stated that he had no preconceived notions regarding the outcome of the special committee but felt that General Samford's remarks should be fully considered, along with other ideas, by that committee.

With respect to graphical or mathematical processing of indications, it was believed that these should be explored, but the danger of stressing such methods to the exclusion of analytical appraisal of the indicators and their implications was pointed out.

General Cabell emphasized that a distinction must be preserved between the process of watching and the process of estimating, and that, to assure that this distinction is maintained, clear terms-of-reference and procedures must be provided the watch mechanism.

First Annual Progress
Report of the IWG

5. Action: Noted.

Program of NIEs for 1953
(1 October Quarterly Revision)

6. Action: Approved, it being understood that completion of NIE-100 ("Soviet Bloc Capabilities for Economic Warfare") would be delayed beyond the original 15 November deadline, and possibly beyond December.

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Proposed NIE on Effects
of the Coming of an Era
of Atomic Plenty

7. Action: Approved in principle, and agreed that the memorandum circulated by Mr. Armstrong would be used by the Board of National Estimates in developing terms-of-reference for IAC consideration at its meeting on 20 October.

Matters for NSC Briefing

8. Discussion: The Director requested the agencies to provide him with any information on [redacted] available prior to the Wednesday meeting of the Council.

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Secretary's Note:

1. All agencies having concurred in IAC-D-71, 3 September 1953 ("Proposed DCID No. 7/1") the DCI issued this Directive 1 October 1953.

2. [redacted]

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